

What is claimed is:

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Cont 1. In an apparatus for controlling copy of content embodied in a video signal, the apparatus comprising a video signal processor for separating a composite synchronizing signal from a content containing input video signal to be recorded and for modulating or demodulating the video signal, *the improvement comprising:*

a first means for receiving the composite synchronizing signal and detecting therefrom a copy-preventing signal; and

a second means for generating a recording-prevention control signal adapted to stop a recording of the content embodied in the video signal, when a copy-preventing signal is detected by the first means.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first means comprises:
a pulse generator for generating a masking pulse in a predetermined interval of the composite synchronizing signal in which a copy-preventing signal is contained;
a first gating means for providing as an output signal the composite synchronizing signal in the interval in which the masking pulse is generated;
an integrator for integrating the output signal from the first gating means and for providing as an output an integrated signal, said integrated signal having an output level; and
a comparator for comparing the output level of the integrated signal with a predetermined threshold value to determine whether a copy-preventing signal is present in the video

10 signal.

1 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the first gating means includes a second
2 gating means for removing a horizontal synchronizing signal from the composite
3 synchronizing signal in the interval in which the masking pulse is generated.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first means comprises a means for
2 indicating detection of a copy-preventing signal, when a pulse count value in a predetermined
3 interval of the composite synchronizing signal is equal to or greater than a predetermined
4 threshold value.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second means also further comprises a
2 means for causing a display of information that the video signal to be copied is copy-
3 protected, when a copy-preventing signal is detected by the first means.

1 6. In a method for controlling copy of content embodied in a video signal, the
2 method comprising the steps of separating a composite synchronizing signal from a content
3 containing video signal to be recorded, and of modulating or demodulating the video signal,
4 the improvement comprising the further steps of:

5 (1) determining whether a copy command has been input;

6 (2) comparing a time T_1 read from a timer with an initially set threshold value T_0 when
7 it is determined in the first step that a copy command has been input;

8 (3) determining whether a copy-preventing signal is present in the video signal to be
9 recorded when it is determined in the second step that $T_1 \geq T_0$; and

10 (4) refraining from copying the content embodied in the video signal when it is
11 determined in the third step that a copy-preventing signal is present in the video signal.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the fourth step further comprises displaying
2 information indicating that the content of the video signal is copy-protected.

1 8. The method of claim 6, wherein the threshold value T_0 is set to a date on which
2 aggressive protection of copyright becomes effective.

1 9. In a method for controlling copy of content embodied in a video signal, the
2 method comprising the steps of separating a composite synchronizing signal from a content
3 containing video signal to be recorded and modulating or demodulating the video signal, the
4 improvement comprising the steps of:

5 (1) determining whether a copy command has been input;

6 (2) when it has been determined that a copy command has been input, determining
7 whether a copy-preventing signal is present in the video signal to be recorded; and

8 (B) refraining from copying the content embodied in the video signal when it is
9 determined in the second step that a copy-preventing signal is present in the video signal.

10. In an apparatus for controlling copy of content embodied in a video signal, said
apparatus comprising a dual deck video cassette recorder (VCR) having a reproducing deck
VCR; a recording deck VCR; an FM copy signal processor for performing automatic gain
control and waveform equalization without demodulating a video signal detected by a video
head of the reproducing deck VCR; and a video signal processor for demodulating the video
signal detected by the video head of the reproducing deck VCR and for separating a
composite synchronizing signal from the demodulated video signal;

the improvement comprising

a first means for receiving the composite synchronizing signal and detecting
therefrom whether the composite synchronizing signal contains a copy-
preventing signal;

a second means for generating a recording-prevention control signal when the first
means detects that the composite synchronizing signal contains a copy-
preventing signal; and

a third means for receiving the recording-prevention control signal and thereupon to
cause the recording deck VCR not to record the content of the video signal.

12. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the second means comprises means for causing display of information that a copy-preventing signal has been detected, when a copy-preventing signal has been detected.

13. In a process for manufacturing an apparatus for controlling copy of content embodied in a video signal, the apparatus comprising a video signal processor for separating a composite synchronizing signal from a content containing input video signal to be recorded and for modulating or demodulating the video signal, said process comprising the steps of:

(1) providing a first means for receiving the composite synchronizing signal and detecting therefrom a copy-preventing signal; and

(2) providing a second means for generating a recording-prevention control signal adapted to stop a recording of the content embodied in the video signal, when the copy-preventing signal is detected by the first means.

14. In a process for manufacturing an apparatus for controlling copy of content embodied in a video signal, said apparatus comprising a dual deck video cassette recorder

3 (VCR) having a reproducing deck VCR; a recording deck VCR; an FM copy signal processor
4 for performing automatic gain control and waveform equalization without demodulating a
5 video signal detected by a video head of the reproducing deck VCR; and a video signal
6 processor for demodulating the video signal detected by the video head of the reproducing
7 deck VCR and for separating a composite synchronizing signal from the demodulated video
8 signal, said process comprising the steps of:

9 (1) providing a first means for receiving the composite synchronizing signal and
10 detecting therefrom whether the composite synchronizing signal contains a copy-preventing
11 signal;

12 (2) providing a second means for generating a recording-prevention control signal
13 when the first means detects that the composite synchronizing signal contains a copy-
14 preventing signal; and

15 (3) providing a third means for receiving the recording-prevention control signal and
16 thereupon to cause the recording deck VCR not to record the content of the video signal.

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